

Mr. Billeaud calls Scott a boudin arriviste whose meaty reputation is the product of aggressive marketing by numerous restaurants and meat specialty shops that have popped up in recent years on the edge of town to stuff boudin-loving travelers on busy Interstate 10.

"We don't have I-10 in Broussard," says Mr. Billeaud, 51 years old, the fourth generation Billeaud to own the store since it opened in 1889.

"Broussard can't claim nothing. They had the title and haven't done anything for 15 years," fires back Aubrey Cole, owner of Don's Specialty Meats just off I-10 in Scott.

Meanwhile, in Jennings, 35 miles or so west on I-10, Mayor Terry W. Duhon can't understand what the hot-dogging is all about. Jennings is Boudin Capital of the Universe, thanks to famed boudin chef and Jennings resident Ellis Cormier, who roamed the state decades ago promoting boudin and won the title for his hometown in the 1970s.

"We've got squatter's rights," says Mr. Duhon, who has the phone number of his favorite go-to joint—Mr. Cormier's Boudin King—on speed dial. No signs or billboards in the town mention Jennings's intergalactic ranking, because, "What do we need to promote it for? We know," he says.

Such lofty titles are of no small importance. Sales of boudin are on the rise, according to restaurateurs, online grocers and locals. The sausage has been featured on the menu at Cochon, a contemporary Cajun restaurant in New Orleans's trendy Warehouse District, which started serving a fried version of the sausage with pickled peppers last year.

"Until we got the title, we never heard anything from Broussard or Jennings. Now they are coming out of the woodwork," complains Donna Thibodeaux, who works at a tourism center in Scott next to one of the town's five boudin sellers.

Boudin's precise origins are not a matter of noir and blanc, though the sausages have been made in southern Louisiana since the mid-1800s. Back then, French Acadians—ancestors of the Cajuns—took leftover parts of a slaughtered pig and mixed them with rice, vegetables and seasonings and encased them in intestines. Some modern takes on boudin substitute pork with crawfish or shrimp. Mr. Cormier's version used more rice than meat, helping popularize the sausage to non-Cajuns because it masked the taste of bolder ingredients like pork butt and liver.

Boudin connoisseurs aren't taking sides. Mr. Billeaud's boudin in Broussard earned an "A+" on "The BoudinLink," a review website operated by Bob Carriker, a history professor at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, the city that both Scott and Broussard border. But he also praises Scott for its juicy version and Jennings for letting rice take on "the starring role."

Lawmakers, for their part, are unapologetic about the grilling they are getting now from boudin makers about the multiple titles. "This is not about the past, it's about the future," state Rep. Stephen Ortego said on the floor of the legislature, explaining his reasons for sponsoring the bill favoring Scott. He says his staff couldn't find any legislation anointing Broussard as boudin capital, and the state representative who allegedly backed that bill is deceased.

As for Jennings, he says, the titles of "world" and "universe" can coexist because Jennings doesn't promote its status. "Anybody can claim a title. But are you using it?" he reasons.

On a recent morning, Mr. Ortego, who grew up near Scott, laid a paper napkin across his left leg and tucked into a link of Mr. Billeaud's boudin. "This one has too much pepper," he said, arguing that Scott's is superior.

Winning the title of Boudin Capital of the World was one of Mr. Morrison's first legislative goals when he became mayor in January 2011. Boudin makers employ 83 people in the town and account for \$5 million in annual sales, helping anchor the local economy's growth over the past decade. "Without boudin, we'd just be a regular I-10 exit, with a McDonald's, a Burger King and a Chevron," says Mr. Morrison, sitting in his office next to a two-year-old fire and police station that tax revenue from boudin sales helped fund.

Rob Pelissier pulled off Scott's I-10 exit one recent morning and headed to Don's Specialty Meats. The store has billboards promoting its "best homemade boudin" some 40 miles to the west—just a few miles outside Jennings. "Maybe Jennings or Broussard had the title years back. I'd say yeah, they were good back then. But nowadays, this place here has got it," he said, staring at his empty plate. "If you spend a day here, you can see all of the traffic coming here from out of town."

Mr. Ortego's legislation doesn't ask Broussard to cede its title. For their part, Broussard town leaders have accepted their new role in the boudin world and have downgraded their expectations. The town's mayor has considered seeking the title "Boudin Capital of Louisiana" next year.

#### A TRIBUTE TO FRANK MCCREA ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American, Frank McCrea, on the celebration of his 90th birthday.

Frank McCrea is a member of what we have rightfully come to call The Greatest Generation. He is everything we have come to celebrate about that celebrated group: a devoted son, brother and father; an unquestioning patriot; an extraordinary servant to his faith; and a true citizen of his community.

Frank McCrea and his 5 brothers and sisters were raised in the depths of the Great Depression. Often, they had nothing more for dinner than the vegetables they grew in their own garden. Yet Frank will reflect on those years not about hardship and deprivation, but about how the love of a close family lit them from within.

When the War came, Frank did not hesitate: he volunteered for the Navy, and served his country with honor. As one who personally has had her life saved by those who choose to serve our nation, I speak with special emphasis in expressing our country's eternal debt to those who serve in our armed forces.

Faith has been at the core of Frank's life. He has long been a deacon of his church and has been an active member of the Gideon Society for over 40 years. All of us who have come into Frank's remarkable orbit have felt the bond Frank has with his faith, and have come to know the special peace that faith has given to him.

Another cornerstone for Frank has been friendship. I know that this weekend he will be surrounded by a legion of true friends, a number who have been connected to Frank since high school—over 70 years ago. I think Frank can honestly boast that he has never lost a

friend, and the number that he has gained is almost too large to measure.

But central to Frank McCrea is being a magnificent father. In his local community theater, Frank has been cast as a dad over 15 times—for good reason. His daughters Karen, Christine and Beth have all gone on to raise children of their own and lead significant lives, but they all point to the bedrock of love from their father and mother that launched them. I truly believe that all of us would regard as our greatest accomplishment if our children were to feel about us as his daughters feel about him.

In sum, Mr. Speaker, let me say that we are indeed fortunate to have citizens like Frank McCrea and that I join his church, his community, his friends and his family in wishing him the happiest of birthdays.

#### CONGRATULATIONS TO PEDDLER'S VILLAGE ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2012

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Peddler's Village in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, as it celebrates its 50th Anniversary this month.

A community staple in my home of Bucks County, millions of guests from across the Delaware and Lehigh Valleys have visited this center of commerce and culture over the last five decades.

Founded in 1962 with the opening of a handful of small shops and a flagship restaurant, Peddler's Village now attracts 1.6 million annual visitors to its 70 independently-owned specialty shops, six restaurants and year-round festivals across its 42 acres of landscaped gardens and colonial-era architecture.

The success of this collection of Bucks County small-business men and women in fulfilling the vision of its founder, Earl Jamison, serves as an example to each of us of the creativity and perseverance of the American spirit.

Congratulations to Peddler's Village on marking 50 years of tradition, and I wish them the best of luck in the decades to come.

#### HONORING THE FALLEN POLICE OFFICERS OF HENRICO COUNTY, VA

**HON. ERIC CANTOR**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2012

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the fallen police officers of Henrico County, VA. We have with us today the Henrico County Police Athletic League, who are in Washington to lay a wreath at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, in honor of the fallen and their families.

The legacy left by the fallen officers of Henrico County illuminates the strength of their commitment to public service. To pay tribute to those officers whose lives were tragically shortened, 250 students from Henrico